REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending.

The Examiner contends that the pending claims encompass eight distinct inventions as follows, and requires election of one of them.

Group I: Claims 1-7, drawn to a truncated DEC1/Stra 13 polypeptide lacking the DEC1/Stra 13 repressor domain;

Group II: Claim 8, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid encoding a truncated DEC1/Stra 13 polypeptide lacking the DEC1/Stra 13 repressor domain;

Group III: Claims 9-13, drawn to a method of inhibiting adipogenesis comprising contacting a cell with a truncated DEC1/Stra 13 polypeptide lacking the DEC1/Stra 13 repressor domain;

Group IV: Claims 14-18, drawn to a method of inhibiting PPARγ2 promoter activity comprising contacting a cell with a truncated DEC1/Stra 13 polypeptide lacking the DEC1/Stra 13 repressor domain;

Group V: Claims 19-24, drawn to a method of inhibiting angiogenesis in a tumor comprising contacting the tumor with a truncated DEC1/Stra 13 polypeptide lacking the DEC1/Stra 13 repressor domain;

Group VI: Claims 25-28, drawn to a method of inhibiting angiogenesis in an angiogenesis-related disease comprising contacting at least one cell with a truncated DEC1/Stra 13 polypeptide lacking the DEC1/Stra 13 repressor domain;

Group VII: Claims 29-31, drawn to a method of identifying a DEC1/Stra 13 agonist comprising contacting a test compound with a cell comprising a reporter gene operably linked to a PPARγ2 proximal promoter fragment, and comparing reporter gene expression in the presence of the test compound with reporter gene expression in the presence of a truncated DEC1/Stra 13 polypeptide lacking the DEC1/Stra 13 repressor domain; and

Group VIII: Claims 32-33, drawn to a method of identifying a PPARγ2 agonist comprising contacting a test compound with a mammalian cell comprising a functional PPARγ2 gene and comparing the amount of PPARγ2 polypeptide in the presence of the test compound with the amount of PPARγ2 polypeptide in the presence of a known PPARγ2 agonist.

In addition, the Examiner has required election of a single SEQ ID NO: for further prosecution.

In response, Applicants elect Group III, claims 9-13, without prejudice to the prosecution of the subject matter of non-elected claims in other patent applications, and without traverse.

Further, as required, Applicants elect SEQ ID NO:7, without prejudice to the prosecution of non-elected SEQ ID NOs in other patent applications, and without traverse. Claims which read on this SEQ ID NO: are claims 9-13.

An early allowance is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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